

GULF DEFENDER



Vol. 65, No. 9

Tyndall Air Force Base, Fla. *Home of Air Dominance Training*

March 3, 2006

In brief

OIF photos needed

In honor of the three year anniversary of Operation Iraqi Freedom, the *Gulf Defender* would like to publish digital photos or stories by Tyndall Airmen who have deployed to Iraq. If you would like to see your pictures or experiences published, contact us at editor@tyndall.af.mil or call Public Affairs at 283-4500.

Fam Camp health fair

Fam Camp here will host a day of health information today starting with a Tricare briefing at 9 a.m. Other activities include nutrition counseling, exercising in your environment, blood pressure readings and blood sugar testing. For more information, contact Maj. Iwona Blackledge at 283-7224.

What's inside



AF announces future F-22A Raptor locations ... **PAGE 6**



Chapel gets renovated ... **PAGE 15**



Steve Wallace

Swingin' memories

Timothy Korkuc, right, holds Sarah Gordon as they and other members of Swingtastic perform for Tyndall Airmen, family members and community guests during the 2006 Checkertail Wing Swing Saturday at Hangar 5. The night was full of 1940s-era dancing, music and style. For more on the event, see Pages 10-11.

Base dorm fire leaves Airmen displaced

MASTER SGT. MARY McHALE
325th Fighter Wing Public Affairs

A dorm fire sparked by unattended cooking in Bldg. 1680 caused internal building damage and displaced four Airmen Feb. 23, according to fire department officials.

An alarm activation alerted fire fighters and when they responded, they witnessed smoke on the second floor, said John Powers, 325th Civil Engineer Squadron fire prevention chief.

"The incident activated the sprinkler system, which extinguished the fire, but water pooled on the floor, spread and dripped down," Mr. Powers said.

The combination of water and smoke damage caused several residents to temporarily move into billeting.

"At this time, there are still two displaced dorm residents," said George Beckford, dormitory manager. He added that the fire left behind some burnt walls, ceiling and cooking items, but water and smoke caused the majority of the damage to cabinets, the floor and walls.

But while in this instance the fire was extinguished by the sprinkler, Mr. Powers warned of mechanical-system fallibility.

"Sprinklers are not designed to extinguish, only control, and they are susceptible to malfunction, just as alarms are," he said. "That's why we depend so heavily on 9-1-1 calls."

Mr. Powers said when the firefighters arrived, it was "pretty evident," that the incident was caused by unattended cooking.

In fact, "Fires caused by cooking remain the leading cause of home fires and home-fire injuries," according to a 2005 National Fire Protection Association study.

The study also states that "often the fire starts within the first 15 minutes of cooking, showing that there's no safe period of time to leave cooking unattended."

To help avoid such situations, the fire prevention chief said they provide briefings to all dorm residents explaining good housekeeping procedures and response procedures in case of an incident.

"It's critical not to become complacent," he said. "As in this case, not only are you affected but your neighbors are affected as well."



1st Lt. J. Elaine Hunnicutt

Special delivery

Airman 1st Class Brenton Gates, 43rd Aircraft Maintenance Unit, drives the “jammer” or MJ-1 Bomb lift truck, as Staff Sgt. Jonathan Leon-Guerrero, 43rd AMU, guides the GBU-32 Joint Direct Attack Munition for loading on an F-22A Raptor. This particular device was an inert training munition, however, if it were a live bomb, the procedures used would be the same. The training helps prepare Airmen for real-world deployment.

Identify this...



Can you identify this object? If so, send an e-mail to editor@tyndall.af.mil with “Identify This” in the subject line. Three correct entries will be chosen at random and drawn from a hat to select the final winner. The prize can be claimed at the Public Affairs office. There were no correct guesses for the Feb. 24 “Identify This.” The photo may re-run for a third time in the future to give everyone a better chance. Better luck next time! And don’t be afraid to guess. You just might get it right and win a prize!

ON THE STREET

Air Force Research Laboratory focus: What is the coolest project AFRL is working on now?



“The all-purpose remote transport system for ordnance disposal.”

ERNIE MEYER
Budget analyst



“The robotics lab because Airmen are already using the technology.”

JACQUELYN MOBLEY
Financial analyst



“A high-pressure fire-fighting system.”

1ST LT. ZACHARY GRAY
Military assistant to the commander



“They are researching solar power for deployed tent cities.”

SENIOR AIRMAN KELLIE HOLT
Information management journeyman

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Airmen helping Airmen with Air Force Assistance Fund

GEN. WILLIAM R. LOONEY III
Air Education and Training Command commander

RANDOLPH AIR FORCE BASE, Texas (AETCNS) – Our greatest privilege as Airmen is to care for our own, and the Air Force Assistance Fund is a tremendous opportunity to put that privilege into practice. This year’s “Commitment to Caring” campaign runs through May 5. During the campaign, we’ll be asking Airmen to contribute to any of four Air Force-related charities. This is quite simply Airmen helping Airmen.

You don’t need to look any farther than the devastating aftermath of Hurricanes Katrina and Rita to understand the benefits the AFAF provides our Air Force community. When our people needed rapid assistance – the AFAF’s charitable organizations were ready and able to help.

Last year’s campaign powerfully highlighted the importance of this tradition of caring. In 2005, our Airmen exceeded the AFAF’s campaign goal by contributing more than \$7.3 million. AETC contributed nearly \$1.2 million and received more than \$4.4 million in assistance, contributing almost half of

that amount to our people in the aftermath of Hurricanes Katrina and Rita. The AFAF was established to provide an annual fundraising campaign for the four official Air Force charities that help Air Force people with emergency aid, with educational needs, and with support of a secure retirement home for widows or widowers of Air Force members in need of financial assistance.

Now in its 33rd year, the AFAF directly benefits active-duty, Reserve, Guard, and retired Airmen and their families by donating 100 percent of all contributions to the following venerable organizations:

The Air Force Aid Society provides Airmen and their families with worldwide emergency financial assistance, education assistance, and an array of base-level community enhancement programs. Base Family Support Centers have full details on programs and eligibility requirements. Information is also available online at www.afas.org.

The Air Force Enlisted Village near Eglin AFB was founded in 1967 to provide a safe, secure, and dignified

place for indigent widows of retired Air Force enlisted personnel. More information is available at www.afenlistedwidows.org.

The Air Force Village in San Antonio provides excellent retirement living, with access to continuing health care for military officers who served honorably and their spouses, with priority to retired Air Force officer widows and widowers in need of financial assistance. The Air Force Village Web site is www.airforcevillages.com.

The General and Mrs. Curtis E. LeMay Foundation helps widows of all Air Force retirees, both officers and enlisted, with financial grants of assistance. The LeMay Foundation Web site is www.lemayfoundation.org.

The First Command received an overwhelming outpouring of support from last year’s AFAF. Now, we have an opportunity to give back.

It’s easy to specify which charities



2nd Lt. Will Powell

Master Sgt. Pedro Montanez, left, Tyndall’s Air Force Assistance Fund project officer, and Senior Master Sgt. Daryl Shines, Tyndall’s Top 3 president, talk about the \$700 check Tyndall’s Top 3 donated to the Air Force Enlisted Village fund Tuesday. The check was the first official donation to Tyndall’s 2006 AFAF campaign drive.

you want to support and all donations are tax deductible. Please take a look at their Web sites and give what you can.

Thank you all for your commitment to supporting our Air Force and our fellow Airmen – past and present – and their families in times of greatest need. Let’s make the 2006 AFAF campaign the best yet for AETC and our Air Force!

Action Line:

Person concerned about lack of white lines at new stop signs

Q: Shouldn’t there be white lines painted across the road surface adjacent to those two new stop signs on the flightline-side of the base? Every other stop sign on

base (and off base) has one. The two signs in question are near the 325th Operations Group building and the other in front of the 53rd Weapons Evaluation Group building. Folks often run the signs or stop suddenly because the standard white line isn’t there to catch their eye.

A: Thank you for you inquiry about painted lines at the stop signs on Florida Avenue. Stop signs were

installed several months ago in an effort to increase the visibility of crosswalks at several locations across the base. We are in the process of evaluating the effectiveness of the signs and may replace the signs with more visible crosswalk signs in the near future.

Editor’s note: Base drivers are required to stop for pedestrians approaching or in a crosswalk until the pedestrian is completely out of the crosswalk.

Action Line

Call 283-2255



BRIG. GEN. JACK EGGINTON
325th Fighter Wing commander

The Action Line is your direct line to me. It is one way to make Tyndall a better place to work and live.

The goal is to provide you with an accurate, timely response. You must leave your name, phone number or address to receive a response.

Questions or comments of general interest will be published in this forum. This avenue should only be used after coordinating problems or concerns with supervisors, commanders, first sergeants or facility managers.

If you’re not satisfied with the response

or you are unable to resolve the problem, call me at 283-2255.

For fraud, waste and abuse calls, you should talk to the 325th Fighter Wing Inspector General’s Office, 283-4646.

Calls concerning energy abuse should be referred to the energy hot line, 283-3995.

Below are more phone numbers that help you in resolving any issues with a base agency.

Commissary	283-4825
Pass and I.D.	283-4191
Medical and Dental	283-7515

MEO	283-2739
MPF	283-2276
SFS Desk Sgt.	283-2254
Services	283-2501
Legal	283-4681
Housing	283-2036
CDC	283-4747
Wing Safety	283-4231
Area Defense Counsel	283-2911
Finance	283-4117
Civil Engineer	283-4949
Civilian Personnel	283-3203
Base Information	283-1113

Thank you for helping me improve Tyndall and I look forward to hearing from you.

Military training enhances resumes

COL. MICHAEL WINSLOW
53rd Weapons Evaluation Group commander

A couple of weeks ago, my wife and I traveled to Disney World to spend a couple of relaxing days with Mickey Mouse and a million of his closest friends.

In accordance with procedures outlined in our recently purchased “How To Do Disney” guidebook, we arrived at the Epcot gates precisely at opening hour, and sprinted to the first ticket booth on the left.

While the helpful lady at the ticket booth entered every detail of our existence on this Earth into the computer, she noticed that we were in the military and said the Epcot center boss was a retired Navy submarine commander who graduated from Annapolis. I thought it was interesting that she even knew about his background, so I asked her what she thought about the job he was doing. I fully expected her to say, “I’m not sure, we never really see the management,” or something to that effect. Her answer surprised me.

She said he was “awesome, a real leader.” During the holidays, he stopped by her ticket booth to introduce himself to her and thank her for her service to the company, she continued. She has also seen him walking around the Epcot center with a broom and basket, picking up trash and talking to the employees.

I thought about this throughout the weekend. As we marveled at the exceptional service, friendliness of the employees and pristine condition of the grounds and facilities. It struck me that this is a perfect example of why folks with military experience routinely excel in high-profile positions in the civilian world. I would venture to guess that the retired Navy commander’s resume did not contain a lot of bullets about managing amusement parks, but instead had something much more valuable to the Disney management – he was a proven leader.

This story illustrates a fundamental principle of leadership that effective leadership is about taking care of your people. You’ve

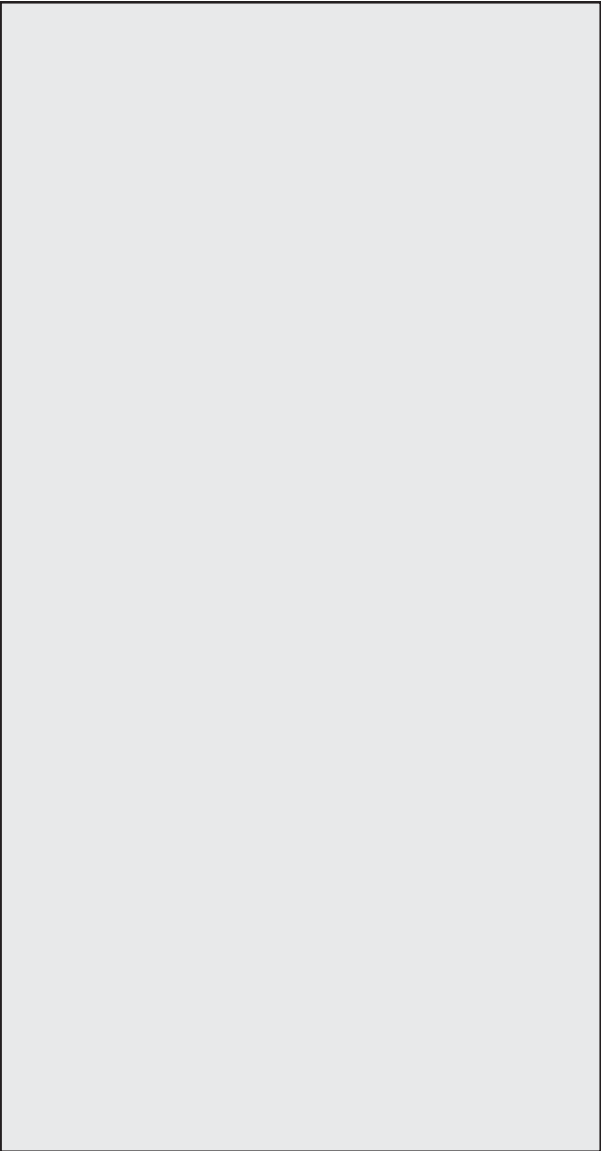
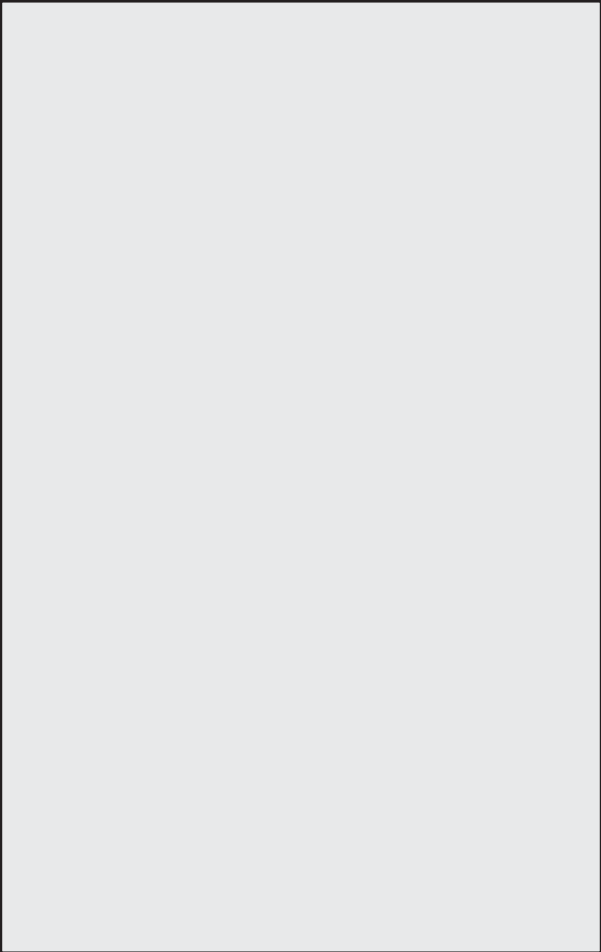
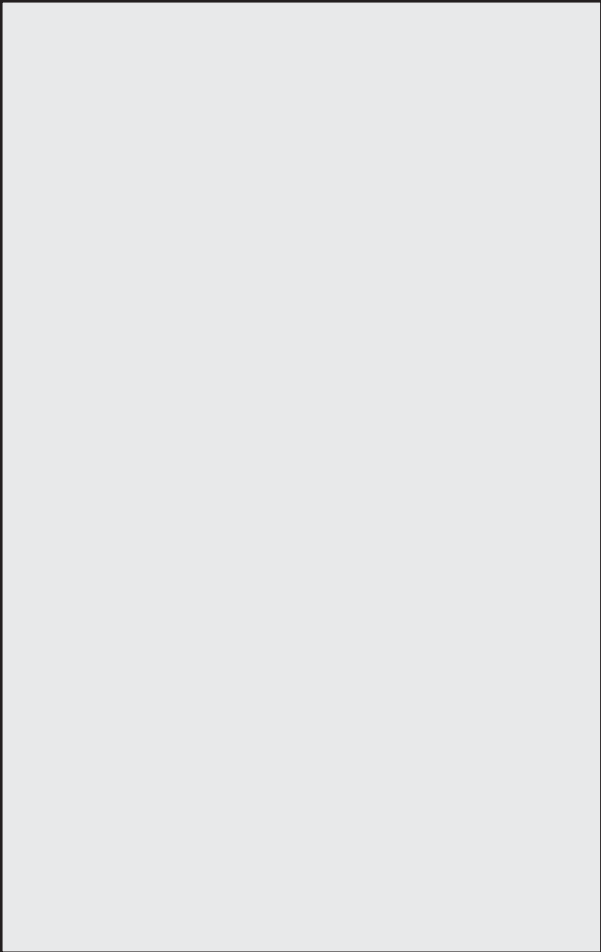
heard it a million times – as a leader, you need to make everyone under your supervision feel like a valued member of the team. You can’t know what’s going on in your organization unless you get out and do some “management by walking around.”

This story also shows that a military career comes and goes pretty quickly. Even those who stay in for 30 years are still relatively young when confronted with the prospect of beginning a new career in the civilian sector. Regardless of what your Air Force Specialty Code is, when the time comes to transition to a new chapter in your life, the most valuable asset you have to offer is the leadership skills you learned in the military. Professional military education courses and practical experience give you priceless training in a skill that is difficult to master, yet is so critical to success.

So continue to hone those skills, and make sure that your resume reflects the fact that you are a leader. Success in any endeavor is about leadership, and great leaders are a valued commodity, both in and out of the military.

RAO here may close soon

The Retiree Activities Office will soon be forced to close unless more people volunteer to keep it running. The ROA provides a source of information for the retiree community about pay and entitlements, vehicle registration, identification cards and more. Office hours are now from 9 a.m. to noon Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday. Volunteers can work as many or few hours per week as they desire. For more information, or to volunteer, call 283-2737, or e-mail rao@tyndall.af.mil.



News

AFCESA commander wins national-level CE award

The commander of the Air Force Civil Engineer Support Agency received a national-level civil engineer award Feb. 22.

Col. Gus Elliott received the Society of American Military Engineers’ Newman Medal, given annually for “outstanding contributions to military engineering.”

Last year, Colonel Elliot oversaw the agency’s response actions after Hurricane Katrina devastated New Orleans. AFCESA personnel were some of the first responders called on to provide assistance.

He also oversaw the alignment of a new directorate to manage contract

support to the field. In its first full year, the directorate processed more than \$145 million in contracts to help Air Force bases around the world maintain and update facilities and infrastructure.

“I was pleasantly surprised and truly honored to have been selected,” said Colonel Elliott. “But to be honest, I was just the front man in this whole thing. It was AFCESA’s hard-working team members who earned this award. They went beyond the requirements to make sure our customers’ needs were met.”

(Courtesy of AFCESA Public Affairs)

AF announces preferred F-22A beddown locations

WASHINGTON, D.C. (AFPN) —

The Air Force's preferred alternatives for the third and fourth operational F-22A beddowns are Holloman AFB, N.M., and Hickam AFB, Hawaii, Air Force Chief of Staff Gen. T. Michael Moseley said Wednesday.

"Although we must still complete the environmental analyses required under the National Environmental Policy Act before finalizing our decisions, the preferred third and fourth beddown locations for the F-22A are Holloman Air Force Base and Hickam Air Force Base," General Moseley said.

The proposed plan is for these units to have active and National Guard personnel at both locations. As the Air Force moves forward with this next generation fighter, combining forces to leverage assets



Steve Wallace

gives the service its best possible team to deliver sovereign options for the nation's defense in the global war on terrorism.

The F-22A program of record calls for 183 aircraft with production slated through 2012.

Currently the F-22A is based at Langley AFB, Va and Tyndall AFB, Fla. Elmendorf AFB, Alaska, was previously announced as the preferred location for the second operational beddown.



Tyndall's AFAF campaign is from Feb. 27 – April 9. For more information, contact Senior Master Sgt. Trina Douglas at 283-8288 or Master Sgt. Pedro Montanez at 283-2806.

Airman tests positive twice for drugs, gets discharged

A Tyndall Airman was convicted of one specification of wrongful use of marijuana at a special court-martial Jan. 9 here.

Staff Sgt. Erik Kort, 325th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron crew chief, was convicted by a military judge for violating Article 112a of the Uniform Code of Military Justice and sentenced to a bad conduct discharge, reduction to the grade of E-1 and confinement for 45 days.

Sergeant Kort tested positive after a random urinalysis, and told the military judge during the trial that he didn't expect to test positive since he only took three "hits" off of a marijuana joint.

This was not Sergeant Kort's first time using marijuana. In October 2003, he was punished by an Article 15 for wrongful use of marijuana when he



tested positive after a urinalysis. At the time, Sergeant Kort asked for leniency and promised that it would be the last time he would ever get into real trouble.

"Let this case serve as a wake-up call to all other Airmen out there who think marijuana use is socially acceptable,"

said Capt. Suzette Knight, trial counsel on the case. "Never lose sight of the fact that marijuana use is a crime and incompatible with military service. You will get caught and punished – that's all there is to it."

This case serves as a reminder of the importance and effectiveness of the urinalysis program at Tyndall. Urinalysis testing allows the Air Force to take out those individuals who put everyone at risk, Captain Knight said.

This was the first of two court-martials in January here in which a defendant was convicted of drug use.

(Courtesy of the Base Legal Office)

VITA provides vital tax assistance for all Airmen

2ND LT. WILL POWELL
325th Fighter Wing Public Affairs

From adjusted gross income to vertical equity, volunteer income tax assistants know how to handle tax terms, and their tax-preparation ser-

vices are available free to all Airmen here until April 15.

Even though none of the 48 volunteers are tax accountants by trade, each is fully qualified and able to assist Airmen with even some of the most complex tax situations, said Tech. Sgt. Tina Crews, VITA program coordinator.

Internal Revenue Service agents personally train every VITA volunteer in a week-long specialized training course to prepare them for the current tax season, and IRS agents are always on call to answer any difficult questions.

“In addition, every VITA volunteer must pass at least three different tests to become qualified as a VITA representative,” Sergeant Crews said.

And this isn’t the first year many VITA representatives have volunteered to help.

“I’ve done my own taxes for years, but I began volunteering because I enjoy interacting and helping others,” said Debbie Taylor, Air Forces Northern security manager and VITA volunteer for the second-straight year. “I also began volunteering to see if there might be something else that could help my own return that I didn’t know about. Now each time I do a return, I learn something new.”

Tyndall VITA volunteers have assisted more than 700 Airmen so far this year.

The tax center is located in the Marsh Room at the Community Activities Center. Airmen can make an appointment by calling 283-9164 or 9165. Appointment hours are from 9 – 11:30 a.m. Monday–Friday, and walk-ins are available from noon to 3 p.m. Monday–Friday.

The tax center is also scheduled to be open from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. each Saturday beginning March 25 until April 15.

Airmen should bring their military ID, Social Security cards for each dependant, receipts for deductible expenses and any applicable financial statements.

For more information, call Sergeant Crews or the tax center at 283-9164.



2nd. Lt. Will Powell

Master Sgt. Pedro Montanez, volunteer income tax assistance representative, assists Senior Airman Daniel Reaves, 2nd Aircraft Maintenance Unit, with his 2005 income tax preparation Monday.



Lt. Col. Curt Van De Walle

Promotion star-style

Staff Sgt. James Calvin, 325th Civil Engineer Squadron firefighter, greets a special guest at his promotion ceremony Tuesday. Brig. Gen. Thomas J. Owen, AETC director of logistics, helped tack on Sergeant Calvin's stripes while visiting the 325th Support and Maintenance Groups this week.

UNDER

CONSTRUCTION

Phase II of the Sabre Gate renovation project is well under way with most of the utility work completed and the structural concrete work is nearing completion. Within the next few weeks, the outbound traffic will be temporarily diverted to exit through the inbound traffic lanes. This is similar to the configuration when the new outbound lane was being constructed at the beginning of the project. This work will take three to five days and will allow for installation of vehicle denial barriers and re-routing of a water main. After this work is completed traffic will be re-routed back to its current configuration.

Checkertail Salute

Senior Airman Anthony Smith



Steve Wallace

Airman Smith receives the Checkertail Salute Warrior of the Week award from Col. Brian Dickerson, 325th Fighter Wing vice commander.

The Checkertail Clan salutes Airman Smith, 325th Maintenance Group. He directly impacted the 43rd Aircraft Maintenance Unit's ability to train and maintain certification for 10 weapons load crews. He also set up weapons-loading competitions for his squadron.

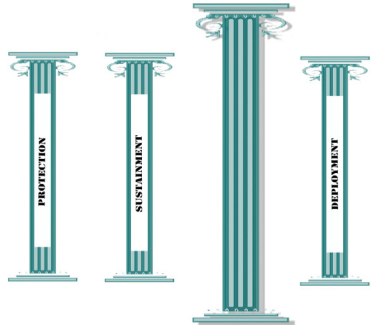
- Duty title: Weapons load crew member
- Time on station: Two years, four months
- Time in service: Three years
- Hometown: Pinola, Miss.
- Hobbies: Football
- Favorite book: "The Outsiders" by S.E. Hinton
- Favorite movie: "Bad Boyz II"
- Favorite thing about Tyndall: The gym
- Goals: To be successful throughout my career and possibly make chief
- Pet peeves: People driving slow
- Proudest moment in the military: Graduating basic military training and technical school

The Checkertail Salute is a 325th Fighter Wing commander program designed to recognize Tyndall's Warrior of the Week. Supervisors can nominate individuals via their squadron and group commanders. Award recipients receive a certificate, letter from the commander and a one-day pass.

The Gulf Defender is published for people like Airman 1st Class Brendolyn Bridges, 325th Aeromedical-Dental Squadron dental apprentice.



FORCE TRAINING



Training Spotlight

What are you looking forward to most as an operational air battle manager?

“I graduate on Wednesday, and I’m looking forward to being a part of the team protecting America. I feel privileged to be serving at the front of our nation’s defense.”



2ND LT. MIKITA BROWN
325th Air Control Squadron
air battle manager student

‘Pilot talk’ offers students top-notch training

2ND LT. AMANDA FERRELL
325th Fighter Wing Public Affairs

Even though air battle manager simulator complexes are equipped with radar imagery and complex data links, the human factor remains vital.

Qualified Airmen of the 325th Air Control Squadron are the “pilots” behind aerial missions conducted daily at the ACS simulator complex.

“My job in the air control squadron consists of providing pilot simulation during scenarios including close and tactical control missions,” said Senior Airman Barbara Woods, 325th ACS weapons technician. “When air battle manager students progress to live missions, it’s my job to be an extra set of eyes and ears during the mission. This means I provide air traffic control coordination and help with flight safety,” she said.

After completing aerospace control and warning systems technical training at Keesler AFB, Miss., Airmen undergo specialized training to become pilot simulator technicians.

Learning to simulate accurate pilot radio communications is challenging. It takes time and repetition to develop the skills needed to communicate like a pilot during combat missions.

“A qualified trainer sits with you and teaches you how to operate the simulator and set up the scope, and they help you with communication usage,” said Airman 1st Class Esmeralda McKenzie,

325th ACS pilot simulator technician. “It takes about two months to get qualified, but we are constantly in upgrade training.”

Because simulator technology evolves to match real-world capabilities, aerospace control and warning systems training is constantly in progress for technicians who operate the simulators.

“Once I became proficient as a pilot simulator technician, I was able to go through live upgrade training to become a weapons technician,” said Airman Woods. “And we are always going through upgrades for our simulator system, trying to incorporate different technologies like wireless internet which helps us use non-verbal communication with pilots (during live missions).”

The duties of “sim drivers” here is specific to ABM training provided by the 325th ACS. The aerospace control and warning systems career field is broad with technicians specializing in data links, surveillance, and tracking.

“The most challenging aspect of

my job is trying to learn the rest of my primary Air Force duties while not actually performing them here at Tyndall,” Airman Woods said. “We don’t use the same system here as we do at other ground units, so it becomes challenging when we test for rank.”

The time spent here for simulator technicians may only offer a glimpse into their vast career field, but the fighter combat mission is a unique experience for most.

“I enjoy being able to play the role of a pilot and I learn something new everyday,” said Airman Ryan Bailey, 325th ACS pilot simulator technician.



2nd Lt. Amanda Ferrell

Airman 1st Class Esmeralda McKenzie, right, and Airman Barbara Woods provide simulated pilot communication and air traffic control coordination during air battle manager student simulator missions.

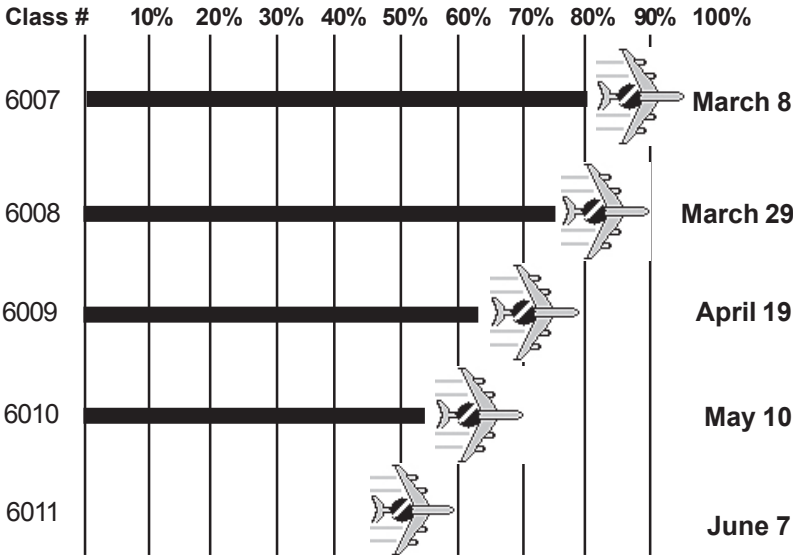


2nd Lt. Amanda Ferrell

Tool time

Senior Airman Matthew Sartin and Airman 1st Class Krystina Sweatt, 372nd Training Squadron / Detachment 4 mission ready airmen students ensure that all maintenance equipment is accounted for after a training session on the flightline.

Air Battle Manager student progress chart



'Greatest generation' returns: Wing Swing revives 1940s music, dancing, style



Senior Airman Sarah M

Above: Members of the swing dancing group, Swingtastic, perform a 45-minute show for the audience Saturday at Hangar 5. The dancers perform all over the country to help preserve the swing dance style, tradition and the era surrounding it, and they performed at Tyndall for free.

Right: First Lts. Elaine Hunnicutt, 325th Fighter Wing, and Dave Paolillo, 325th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron, hit the dance floor after the Swingtastic dancers finished their performance. More than 400 Tyndall Airmen, family members and community guests attended the first-ever Wing Swing here.



Senior Airman Sarah McDowell



Members of the U.S. Air Force Reserve band, Full Spectrum, entertain the crowd with big band and jazz songs. The 12-person band tours all around the world, and is a full-time professional Air Force musician.



Steve Wallace

Ryan Karbett and Kirsten Basquez, Swingtastic members, steal the show as they dance for the crowd during the group’s performance. Both Kirsten and Ryan have been swing dancing for nearly two years.



Senior Airman Sarah McDowell

Shannon Farmer, left, and Heath Wright from the country music group, Ricochet, highlight the night as they perform for the crowd. Ricochet has performed for thousands of servicemembers throughout the world during two United Service Organization tours.



Steve Wallace

crowd with various and each member



Steve Wallace



Steve Wallace

Above: Master Sgt. Martin Mazurek, 325th Aeromedical-Dental Squadron, pretends to scout for enemy combatants during the costume contest. Approximately 40 people competed in the contest, but Sergeant Mazurek took the top prize with his 101st Airborne paratrooper uniform. He won a free seafood dinner for two at the Officers’ Club.
Left: Bobby Richardson, 325th Civil Engineer Squadron, tries to get more crowd noise for his zoot suit during the costume contest. Brig. Gen. Jack Egginton, 325th Fighter Wing commander, judged each contestant by how much the crowd cheered for them.

Briefs

Tricare briefing

There is a Tricare briefing 10 a.m. March 16 in the 325th Medical Group dental clinic conference room, first floor.

Mandatory public health training

Public health will conduct annual supervisors food-handling training for food facility managers and supervisors 8 – 11 a.m. Wednesday at the Health and Wellness Center, Bldg. 1307. Make a reservation by Monday at 283-7172/7138.

Refill pharmacy to relocate

Tyndall's satellite refill pharmacy will temporarily close for approximately three months for renovation starting Monday. During this time, refill pharmacy services will be at the Tyndall Clinic's information desk, located on the first floor of Bldg. 1465 in the glass atrium near the front door. Refill pick-up times are 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday-Friday and closed on weekends and holidays. To refill prescriptions, call 283-7177, 1-800-356-5273, or try the new information line 283-2778 and press option 2 twice.

New clinic phone system

The 325th Medical Group has a new Tyndall Clinic information line. Beneficiaries can now call 283-2778 for appointments, referral information, dental services, prescription refills, after-hours and weekend PCM-On-Call, Tricare information and general clinic information on policies and hours. If customers have difficulty navigating the system or have suggestions to make it more customer friendly, they can improve the system by submitting a customer feedback form on the clinic's public Web page. Comments can be submitted online at www.tyndall.af.mil/325MDG/325mdg.htm.

Embry Riddle deadlines

Embry Riddle Aeronautical University here starts their Spring B 2006 Term March 20. Senior registration dates start Tuesday and end March 10. Open registration is March 13-17. March 20-27 is the add/drop period. Registration is at the Tyndall Education Center, Bldg. 1230, Room 48 from



Marie Pippin

Mardi party

Tyndall's Child Development Center celebrates Mardi Gras 2006 with a parade Fat Tuesday. This was the first year the CDC celebrated Mardi Gras with a parade, and more than 180 children participated.

8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. daily. For more information, call 283-4557.

OSC scholarship applications

Scholarship application packets are currently available at schools for high-school seniors and spouses, and can be picked up at a school counselor's office by 3 p.m. today. Late applications are not accepted. For more information, call Shannon Urban at 648-8229.

LOA scholarships

Tyndall's Logistics Officer Association is providing two scholarship opportunities next semester. One is for an enlisted member in a logistics specialty who is pursuing a bachelor's degree and a commission as a logistics officer. The other is for any dependant of a Team Tyndall member who is a college-bound high-school senior pursuing a commission in the Air Force. Templates are available at the education office. Submissions must be sent by April 1 to andrew.overton@tyndall.af.mil. For more information, contact 2nd Lt. Andrew Overton at 283-4402.

Virtual obstacle course

Fitness workshops start 3 p.m. today at Heritage Park and continue every Friday. Learn how to create a training plan for any environment. For information call, Lt. Col. (Dr.) Dan Kulund at 283-7717.

Survivor benefit plan

SBP is a program that protects the

spouses of retired military members in the event of death. Retirement pay stops on the date of death. Only through SBP can a spouse continue to receive a portion of that pay. For more information, call Alicia Gibbons, Tyndall's SBP counselor, at 283-8392.

Thrift Shop hours

The Thrift Shop is open 9 a.m. to noon Saturday. Consignments are 9:30-11:30 a.m. Wednesdays through Thursdays. The Thrift Shop is in Bldg. 743, across from the Post Office. For more information, call 286-5888.

Airman's Attic

Family Services and the Airman's Attic are open from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Monday-Friday in Bldg. 747. For more information, call 283-4913.

Asian Pacific American Heritage Committee membership

The Asian Pacific American Heritage Committee gives members an opportunity to learn about other cultures and sample new cuisines. Anyone interested in joining should contact Capt. Cheryl Shewbert at 283-3482.

Voting for primaries assistance

Tyndall's voting assistance office assists Airmen with registering to vote in their upcoming state primaries over the next several months. For information and a voting schedule, contact Maj. Andy Dean at 283-2121 or Capt. Robert Anson at 283-0849.

**Tyndall Chapel Schedule****Catholic services**

Daily Mass, 11:30 a.m.
Monday-Friday,
Chapel Two
Reconciliation, before Saturday Mass or by appointment
Saturday Mass, 5 p.m.,
Chapel Two
Sunday Mass, 9:30 a.m.,
Chapel Two
Religious Education, 11 a.m.,
Bldg. 1476

Protestant services

Traditional worship service, 9:30 a.m., Chapel One
Contemporary worship service, 11 a.m., Chapel Two
Wednesday Fellowship, 5 p.m., Chapel Two

(For more information on other services in the local area, call the Chaplain's office at 283-2925.)



2nd Lt. Will Powell

Run for your life

Nearly 100 Airmen participate in a 5K fun run/walk Tuesday at the Fitness Center to kick off a 90-day fitness and weight loss program called "Save Your Life." The Health and Wellness Center and Fitness Center joined forces to develop the program to promote better health and fitness among Tyndall Airmen. For more information about the new and unique program, call the Fitness Center at 283-2631 or the HAWC at 283-3826.

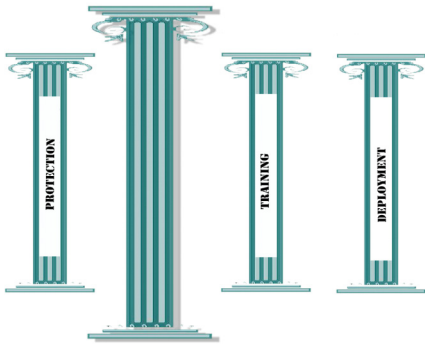


2nd Lt. Will Powell

Full swing ahead

John Davis winds up to swing at an incoming softball Wednesday here. He and other members of the 83rd Fighter Weapons Squadron softball team were practicing for the upcoming softball season, which begins in May.

FORCE SUSTAINMENT



Intramural Sports Standings

Basketball

Team	W	L	Team	W	L
ACS	10	0	SFS	3	5
95th FS	7	1	COMM	3	7
AMXS 3	6	1	SVS	2	6
AMXS 1	7	2	83rd FWS	2	7
AMXS 2	6	3	AFRL	2	7
OSS	6	3	601st EAOG	1	7
MXS	4	2	CES	0	8

Bowling

Team	W	L	Team	W	L
SFS	125	75	CES	100	100
AMU 3	123	77	NCOA	100	100
601st 2	122	78	CS 1	98	102
MXS-Phase	120	80	AFCEA	96	104
325 AMXS	118	82	SVS	95	105
1st AMU 2	115	85	RED HORSE	92	108
MXS 1	115	85	ACS 2	92	108
MSS 1	114	86	ACS 1	88	112
IAM	112	88	53rd WEG	86	114
1st AMU 1	111	89	CONS	83	117
MSS 2	110	90	83 FWS 2	83	117
Test	108	92	CS 2	81	119
OSS	106	94	AAFES	78	122
83 FWS 1	104	96	MOS	77	123
AMMO	100	100	Med Gp	72	128
601st 1	100	100	1FS	70	130

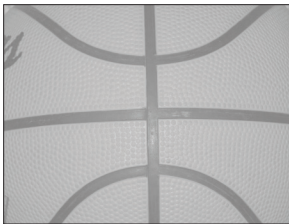
Attention March Madness fans

College basketball's "March Madness" begins March 16. Team selections occur March 12.

That's why the *Gulf Defender* is reaching out to you, Team Tyndall, to hear what your selections are.

In the spirit of the Pig Prog competition, we'll take your picks for who's going to March Madness, and then who's going to the next round. What we need from you are e-mails with your predictions. We'll print your responses.

Send all comments to editor@tyndall.af.mil.



Courtesy photo

Local Spring Break time for fun, safety

SENIOR AIRMAN SARAH McDOWELL
325th Fighter Wing Public Affairs

Like bees to honey, roughly 400,000 vacationers and college students swarm into Panama City for the pleasures promised to them by advertisements, television programs and stories from other adventurers.

From the end of February to the middle of April, the increased volume of people increases the risk of incidents while touring downtown.

"During this time, the incidents of underage drinking, drinking and driving, traffic accidents, fatalities and domestic violence all go up," said Staff Sgt. Alijhondroe Wiley, 325th Security Forces Squadron police services sergeant.

But, there are simple solutions to combat these increased risk factors.

"If you are of age, drink responsibly, and if you are underage, don't drink. It is not worth the consequences," Sergeant Wiley said.

Other ideas that can prevent a severe situation include designating a driver, using the Airmen Against Drunk Driving hotline at 819-0220, calling a supervisor or friend and keeping a recall roster at all times.

"Local law enforcement agencies arrested hundreds of Spring Breakers last year for possession of narcotics, battery, rape, theft, disorderly conduct, driving under the influence, underage drinking and public intoxication," said Charles Lunsford, Air Force Office of Special Investigation special agent. "Unfortunately, several vacationers even died as a result of drowning, drug overdoses, vehicle accidents, and falling from hotel balconies."

The majority of these crimes, accidents and deaths were influenced by alcohol consumption and involved individuals between the ages of 18-25, he said.

Some tips to avoid these situations are:

- Avoid risky situations.
- Always go out with reliable friends and make sure one of them stays sober. Remember your Wingman.
- Never leave a drink unattended.
- If you come in contact with illegal narcotics, leave the area and report it to the proper authorities. Don't become guilty by association.

• Do not swim when under the influence of alcohol.

• Avoid confrontation and violence. Walk away and report problems to authorities.

These methods will help avoid a risky situation.

"Though we have a few incidents

during this time of year, Spring Break hasn't turned out to be a huge problem for Tyndall over the years," said Ken Jolley, 325th Fighter Wing Safety.

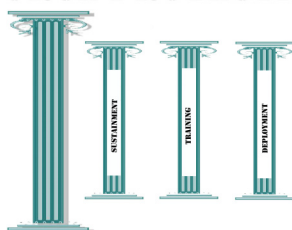
One reason Spring Break hasn't been a big problem for Tyndall is because there are positive role-models and knowledgeable briefings given to Airmen before the season begins, he said.

However, single first-term Airmen new to Tyndall and Airmen going through training are typically affected the most by Panama City's nightlife.

"Airmen just arriving are eager to party and get caught up in the nightlife scene quickly, and it can ruin their career," Sergeant Wiley said.

Be smart while enjoying all that Panama City Beach has to offer.

FORCE PROTECTION



Military family prepares to WalkAmerica for children

2ND LT. AMANDA FERRELL
325th Fighter Wing Public Affairs

Every minute a baby is born prematurely in the United States.

Affecting thousands, premature birth and birth defects are experienced by military families here and throughout the Air Force.

"Families from the local and military community are touched each day from this silent problem," said Kim Castriotta, March of Dimes community director. "The Sims family has experienced premature birth first hand. Two of their three children have been born prematurely."

The Sims' are a local military family who strongly support fundraising efforts and education programs put forth by the March of Dimes organization.

"We will be at this year's March of Dimes WalkAmerica event," said Nicole Sims, March of Dimes advocate. "The six-mile walk raises money for medical re-

search, education and local neonatal intensive care units."

Without events like WalkAmerica, necessary funding would not exist. That would lessen the medical facilities, education programs and research grants that benefit hundreds of military families, she said.

"The walk will take place on April 29th at McKenzie Park," said Ms. Castriotta. "We've always had tremendous support from the Tyndall community in the past, so this year we are hoping for an even better turnout."

The Sims' experienced Tyndall's support during the months following the premature birth of their youngest child.

"While our son was receiving treatment downtown in the neonatal intensive care unit, my squadron gave me time off to spend with my wife and son in the hospital," said Staff Sgt. Gerald Sims, 1st Aircraft Maintenance Unit electrical and en-

vironmental systems craftsman. "It was especially helpful since we also had our two young children at home."

"The base here has done an outstanding job supporting the March of Dimes," said Staff Sgt. Denise Brown, 325th Medical Group satellite pharmacy NCO in charge and team captain of the Walk Committee for Panama City. "I encourage military members to donate and support the WalkAmerica event for the simple reason that the contributions go back into our community and benefit military families here."

The base hospital does not provide medical services for babies born prematurely or with birth defects, so receiving care downtown at the Gulf Coast Medical Center was the Sims' only option.

"The March of Dimes makes the greatest impact locally by providing funds used to establish neonatal intensive care units in communities across the country," said Ms.

Castriotta. "By contributing through participation in the Walk America event, our military families in need will be able to continue to receive local care here in Panama City."

Seeing their doctor, taking folic acid supplements and leading a healthy lifestyle is crucial for pregnant mothers, said Ms. Sims. The March of Dimes website offers information about healthy pregnancies and ways to lower the risks of premature birth.

Those invaluable resources are available because of contributions made to the March of Dimes by those in our own community, said Ms. Castriotta.

"The success of the March of Dimes in our community only happens when people decide to 'be a hero' for America's littlest," she said.

For more information about the WalkAmerica campaign, contact the March of Dimes office at 785-6460.

Avoid spring 'lobsterfest'

It happens to sunbathers all the time. The practice of mixing hours in the sun with no sunscreen and alcohol usually results in a good amount of pain, whether it is by sunburn, heat stroke or heat exhaustion.

This year avoid being part of the "lobsterfest" by heeding the following beach safety advice from the American Red Cross:

- Wear sunscreen with a sun protection factor of 15 or higher.
- Wear protective clothing, hats, shoes or have a beach umbrella to keep cool and shaded.
- Avoid being in direct sunlight at its peak, which is between 10 a.m. and 4 p.m.

• Drink plenty of water and avoid alcoholic or caffeinated beverages. Drinking alcohol or caffeine while being in the sun worsens the effects of the sun because it dehydrates the body.

• Watch for signs of heat stroke, a life threatening condition. Symptoms of heat stroke are: Hot, red, dry skin; unconsciousness; rapid, weak pulse; and rapid, shallow breathing. If these symptoms are present, emergency personnel must be notified and the person must be cooled down immediately.

• Remember sunglasses to protect the eyes and footwear to protect feet from buried glass.

Following these guidelines can keep a person out of hot water with his health, and will enable him to spend many more days in the sun.

(Compiled by 325th Fighter Wing public affairs)

Historic base chapel receives major renovation



2nd Lt. Will Powell

David Terrell, a construction contractor, rips out part of a wall at Chapel 1.

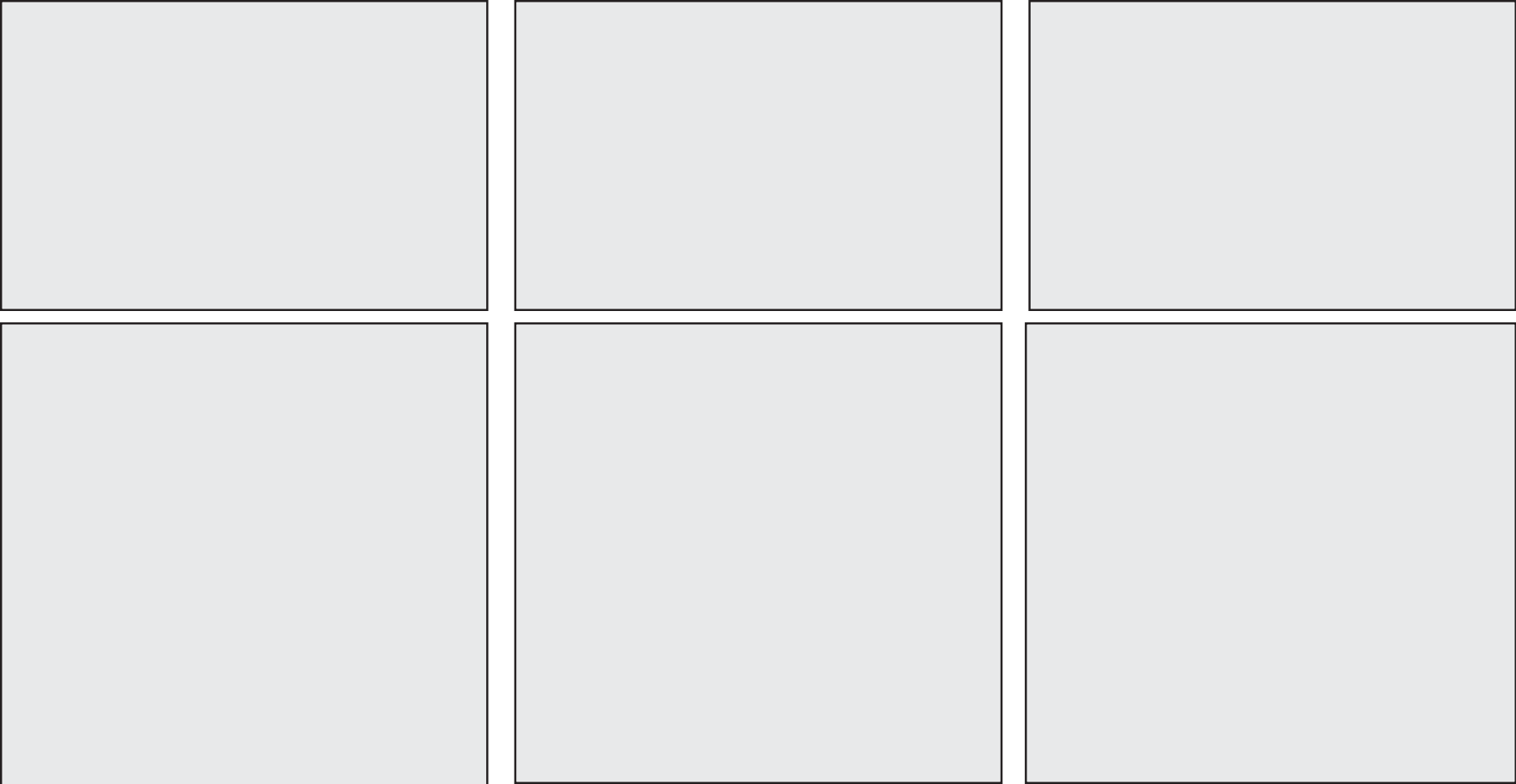
2ND LT. WILL POWELL
325th Fighter Wing Public Affairs

The oldest building on Tyndall is receiving a major face-lift – inside and out – yet when all the dust clears, it should still look nearly identical to its original World War II-era design. Chapel 1, the first building built here in 1943, has withstood more than 60 years of hurricanes and numerous minor renovations, but an

extensive mold problem forced the chapel to close its doors in January. Now with the help of the 325th Civil Engineer Squadron, 325th Services Squadron and civilian contractors, the chapel is receiving a mold abatement treatment that includes new windows, carpet, paint, acoustical ceilings, a roof and a dehumidifying heating and air conditioning unit – in hopes that the building will even-

tually be placed on the National Register for Historic Places. In September, the state historic preservation office told base officials that Chapel 1 appears to meet the criteria for listing in the National Register, and if a building meets the criteria, then the Air Force has to treat the structure as if it were already on the register, according to Dr. Bridget Keegan, 325th CES environmental engineer. “It’s important to hang on to national heritage,” she said. “This chapel marks a point in our history, and the Air Force is very committed to preserving eligible buildings and archeological sites. The 325th CES also sees the significance and value of maintaining the chapel in accordance with the period of history that it represents.” Even though the mold remediation project has just recently begun, mold has been a problem in the chapel for years, according to Master Sgt. Susie Arce, NCO in charge of Chapel operations. “The inside of the chapel had been getting repainted just about every other year, but that was just mask-

ing the problem, not fixing it,” she said. Unfortunately, sufficient funds were never available to completely remove the mold or replace an ineffective heating and air conditioning system. That changed in 2005 when the chapel received end-of-the-year funds to cover the nearly \$400,000 price tag for renovations. Renovations are scheduled to be complete by late July. Meanwhile, the traditional protestant Sunday morning service is at the NCO Academy. “The NCO Academy staff has been very gracious for allowing us to use their auditorium, but words can’t do justice to the anticipation of the reopening of the chapel,” said Chaplain (Lt. Col.) Joseph Motsay, wing chaplain. “It’s like going on leave and staying with friends – it’s great while you’re visiting, but there is nothing quite like your own home. We are looking forward to going ‘home’ this summer, and once we get a firm completion date, we plan to have a rededication service to bless and reopen the chapel so the wedding bells will ring again.”



Funshine NEWS

www.325thservices.com

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www.325thservices.com

Come join us...

March 10
5:30-8:30 p.m.

Evening Dining
Special....

**Mongolian
BBQ**

All ranks at the O' Club
283-4357

平成十一年一月一日



Building Partnerships

Commercial Sponsorship



Become an air show
sponsor (April 22 and 23).
Call us today at 283-4193
and find out how you and/or
your company can benefit.

Free Movie Nites

**Tonight at the
Pizza Pub**

Just Friends - (Rated PG-13)

Chris is a selfish, womanizing and successful music executive. Circumstances bring him back to his home town and fate reconnects him with the "just friends" girl of his dreams. Can one escape the clutches of the "friends zone?" Is it possible to go from "just friends" to boyfriend? Chris is about to find out the hard way. For details, contact the Pizza Pub at 283-3222.

**Thursday at the
Community Center**
**Cheaper by the
Dozen 2** - (Rated PG)

Tom and wife Kate, hoping to bring their family together for a memorable summer vacation, take their 12 offspring to the rustic Lake Winnetka. But their retreat soon becomes cutthroat when they enter into a competition with the over-achieving members of a large family headed by Tom's long-time rival, Jimmy Muraugh. For details, contact the Community Center at 283-2495.

Showtime 8 p.m.
Pizza Pub open
during the movie.
Youth under the
age of 16 must be
accompanied by an adult.

Showtime 6 p.m.
Pizza Pub open
during the movie.
Youth under the
age of 16 must be
accompanied by an adult.

Attention Team Tyndall: Place a *free* classified ad in the Gulf Defender

Military classified ads are placed in the Gulf Defender on a space available basis. Ads must be for a one-time sale of personal goods and should include a complete description, 30 words or less, of item being sold. Forms must be turned in by 2 p.m. Thursday for publication in the following Friday's Gulf Defender. Completed forms can be dropped off or mailed to the 325th Fighter Wing Public Affairs Office at 445 Suwannee Rd. Ste. 129, Tyndall AFB, FL 32403, or faxed to 283-3225. Ads can also be sent in by e-mail to checkertailmarket@tyndall.af.mil.

Rank/Name _____

Unit/Office Symbol _____

Duty Phone _____

Home Phone _____

Item description (One ad per form)
(30 words or less)

We value your opinion!

Take a couple of minutes to give us your thoughts on how we can make the Gulf Defender better:

Did the front page grab your attention? Yes ☐ No ☐

Do you feel there is a good mix of local, command and Air Force-level news? Yes ☐ No ☐

Do the photos encourage you to read accompanied articles? Yes ☐ No ☐

Is the Gulf Defender easy to read and follow? Yes ☐ No ☐

What did you find most interesting in this week's paper? _____

If you could change one thing in the paper, what would it be? _____

Comments: _____

AAFES now matches customers' lowest price found

DALLAS – Since they were established in 1895, the military exchanges' mission has essentially been the same: Provide necessary merchandise and services to the military.

While the retail landscape has changed dramatically over the past 110 years, PXs and BXs of the Army & Air Force Exchange Service are constantly seeking initiatives that meet the needs of troops and their families in the most affordable manner possible.

"Maintaining the strength of the exchange benefit in today's competitive retail environment is no easy task," said Lt. Col. Debra Pressley, AAFES corporate communications chief. "It is only through proactive surveying and review that we can ensure that AAFES prices are routinely lower than the competition."

Even with consistent monitoring, AAFES found it necessary to institute a program that would ensure that, in the event AAFES doesn't have the lowest price, authorized customers always receive the best price.

Today's "We'll Match It!" effort works in two ways. First, if customers see a price differential of less than \$10 they can tell the cashier who will match it on the spot. Customers who report a price difference of greater than \$10 dollars need only to bring a current local competitor's ad to receive the reduced price. In either case the competitor's item, of course,

must be identical to the item in the AAFES store.

"AAFES is committed to having low prices," said Colonel Pressley. "'We'll Match It' is simply our last line of defense. After AAFES conducts national surveys and associates from the store level compare local prices, the customer has this program to make sure no one missed anything."

"We'll Match It!" promotes AAFES as a price leader with a pledge that retail stores will match competitors' current, local price on any identical stock assortment. In addition to this same-day pledge, AAFES also offers a 30-day price guarantee on any item originally purchased from AAFES and subsequently sold at a lower price by AAFES, or another local competitor (excluding unauthorized dealers and warehouse clubs).

Since AAFES does have a dual mission to provide quality merchandise and services at competitively low prices and generate earnings to supplement Morale, Welfare and Recreation programs, there are exceptions to the "We'll Match It!" program. Except for the Exchange Catalog and aafes.com, stores cannot accept challenges from any catalog or Web site. Other exclusions include "gimmick" promotions, warehouse clubs, special order automotive parts, gasoline, automotive labor/service, double and triple coupons, clear-



2nd Lt. Amanda Ferrell

Mina Gladhill, left, customer service supervisor, and Samorn Clayton, sales associate, discuss Tyndall BX price match policy.

ance items, flat percentage off items and vending items.

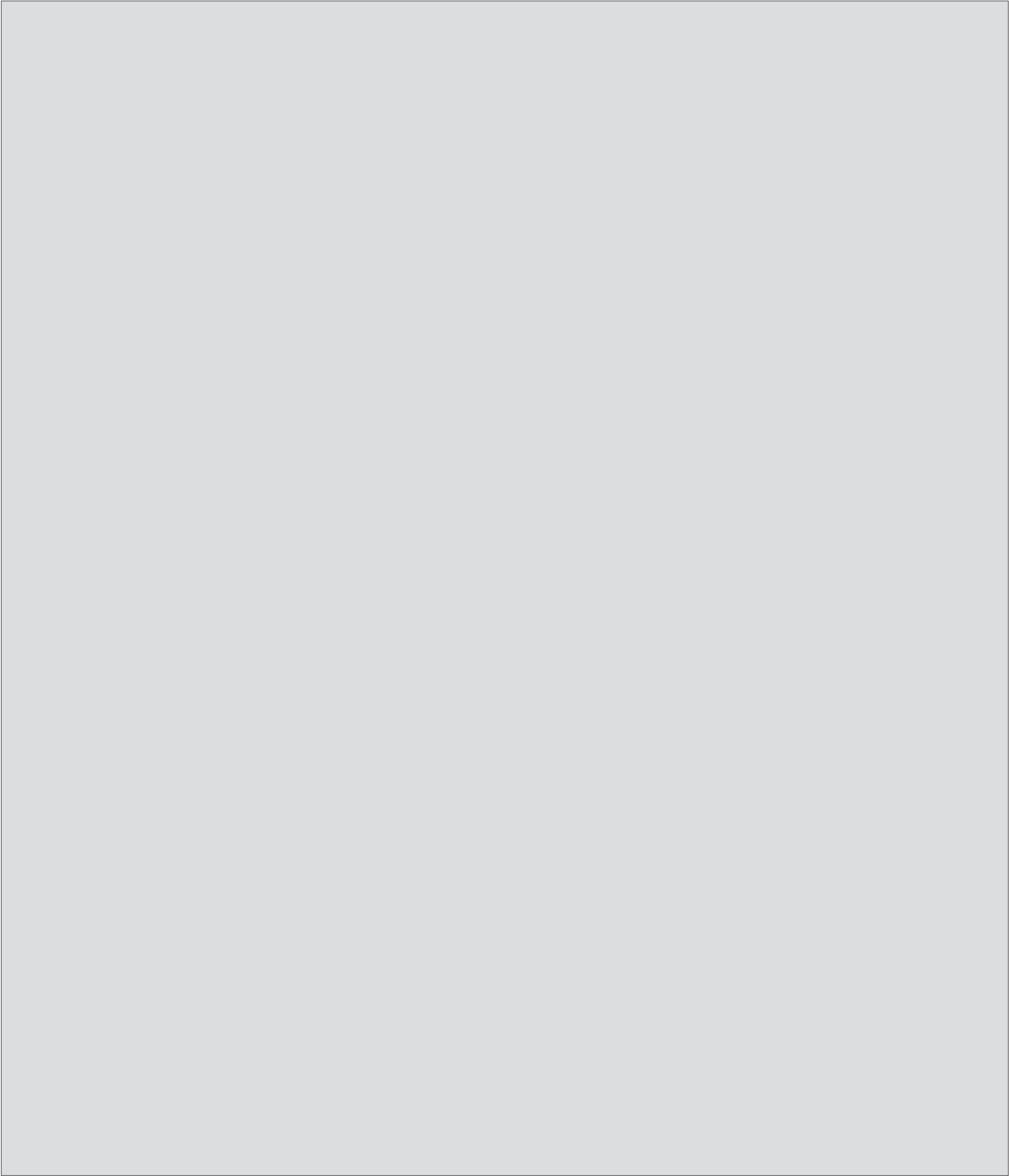
"We'll Match It!" is available every day of the year exclusively at AAFES facilities around the world. Purchases from the exchange generate funds for much needed MWR programs. In 2004, AAFES contributed more than \$242 million to MWR in support of youth activities, outdoor recreation, bowling facilities and other quality of life programs on military installations worldwide.

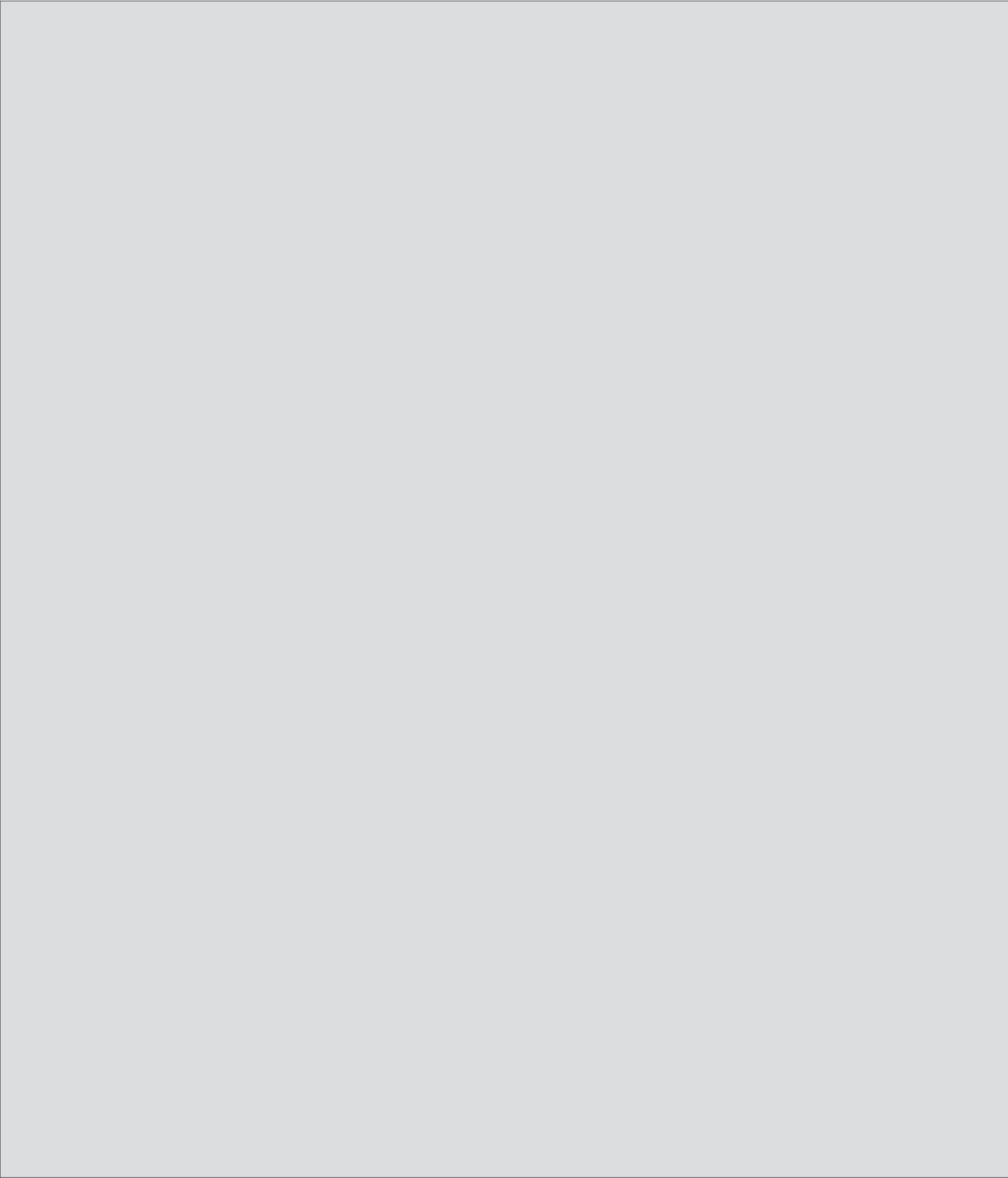
(Courtesy of AAFES)

The 325th Medical Group is observing National Patient Safety Awareness Week Monday–March 11.

Healthcare teams will be reaching out to patients and families to emphasize the work they are doing to improve patient safety and to enlist patients and families in their efforts. Activities will be ongoing at the medical clinic next week.

For more information contact, Lt. Erin Race at 283-7321.





Gulf Coast Salute

Tyndall Air Force Base, Florida 2006

Featuring

The Air Force Thunderbirds
The Army Golden Knights
The Flash-fire Jet Truck

Feel the Thunder April 22-23
For more information, call 283-9560





Thinking
about
getting
out?
Think
again!

Get the
facts first.
Call Senior
Master Sgt.
Al Lewis,
325th
Fighter Wing
career as-
sistance
adviser, at
283-2222.